

PADEL NEWS SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to the September edition of Padel News, where we share padel updates from around the country. Please share this newsletter with venues in your County and encourage them to circulate amongst the wider rackets' community.

PADEL DASHBOARD

Next update coming 1st October 2022

Court booking providers [Matchi](#) and [Play Tomic](#) have both recently launched detailed padel reports that highlight the growth of the sport.

How to find courts [near me](#).

PADEL PUBLICATIONS

As padel gains momentum in the UK, so have the communications supporting the game. Recently launched by journalist Emma Kimber and beautifully produced is www.thebandeja.com

Another great source of up to the minute padel news is the Padel Paper www.thepadelpaper.com

NEW VENUES



Two new courts in Herts

Carol Milligan reports

Two new Game4Padel courts at Broxbourne Sports Club (BSC) in Hertfordshire were officially opened at a three-day launch event on 16 to 18 July. A great response by members from the tennis, squash, racketball, hockey and cricket sections of the club, plus invited friends and newcomers, saw a great many players try padel – most for the first time – and an impressive 101 players have signed up to Game4Padel membership during the courts' first month of operation.

This breaks down as 41 existing BSC members, 19 new members who have also joined BSC, and 41 new players signed up solely to play padel. This is a great achievement and demonstrates how well the Game4Padel model works when our partner venue is fully onboard with welcoming padel

into their club. A big thank you to Sarah Elliott, Broxbourne's Head of Business Development, for helping us at all stages of implementation.

Game4Padel National Development Manager, James Rose led the launch event, assisted by our newest G4P coach, Jack Hazelwood, and with great input from the local BTA Tennis Coaching team. Introductory padel sessions and games took place over all three days, and I think it fair to say a good time was had by all.



Two concept courts in Wilmslow, Cheshire

Pippa Nash reports

Kristopher Ball, Founder & CEO at The Padel Club, first discovered padel whilst working abroad and was instantly addicted to the sport. He found it quick to learn, easy to play and very sociable, however he was dismayed to discover there were no local courts in his area when he returned to the UK.

Kristopher realised that there was a great opportunity to bring the sport to the Northwest and founded The Padel Club with the knowledge and belief, that the sport would be popular once people had the opportunity to play. He decided to open high quality padel clubs, beginning with concept courts, and to do everything he could to get people playing padel.

The Padel Club has built two outdoor concept courts in Wilmslow, manufactured, and installed by Portico Sport and launched on the 18th of July. They have been overwhelmed by the response. The Padel Club offers pay to play, club sessions and free padel intros for those who have never experienced padel. New players are taking up padel in their droves; they have astounded by the number of people who quickly become regulars.



A real community has developed around The Padel Club Wilmslow and so many new players are connecting with each other in their padel games. Their courts can be booked via the Playtomic app, which is incredibly easy to use, to book and pay for courts, enter matches, find players, and book activities.



Padel is a very social game and people love to play and compete with new players. Lots of match results are being published, along with player rankings, all in the Playtomic app. The app helps players find other padel enthusiasts for games, leagues and tournaments.

The Padel Club Head Coach, Ben Goodeve, has a wealth of experience coaching padel and is providing sessions to players. Ben, and Kris, are more than happy to step up to fill a player gap in a game!

The Padel Club is thrilled that its brand and experience has been so well received in Cheshire. They have ambitious expansion plans and are looking to develop high quality and high service padel communities across the UK. The Padel Club currently has 7 permanent sites, all in development or in planning, which they hope will lead to 30 permanent, mostly covered, padel courts opening over the course of the next 12 months.

VENUE NEWS

Padel takes off in Yorkshire

Nicky Horn reports that padel is flying at her venue, namely Surge in Harrogate. Yorkshire is fortunate to have more and more courts emerging in the county. Skipton and Ripon opened courts last month which means there is healthy competition between clubs including Huddersfield, Rawdon and Surge.

HOP tour has visited Surge, Harrogate twice and once at Rawdon where events ran for both men and women. Refuse to Lose Royal Padel came to Surge at the end of July. The GB Women's 40+ squad held their training and talent ID at Surge which attracted players from Lincolnshire, Middlesbrough, Huddersfield and London. They all descended on Surge for a weekend of training and match play with top coaches Nigel Garton and Libby Fletcher. Such was its success that players subsequently headed off to Rocks Lane in London to play each other again!

The Playtomic app at Surge has proved very popular as it allows players to identify new partners and opponents and the ability to join leagues. Surge has 4 coaches each working on different days of the week, helping players of all levels to improve their game. Junior camps have run during the summer holiday along with family sessions.

Touring teams and friendly matches run well at Surge. The iPadel league and LTA Padel's National League appeal to stronger players. A wider range of abilities are keen to compete which has led to a mixed match between Surge and Rawdon earlier in the summer. Rawdon prevailed with 32 players involved in the match. West of Scotland Padel Club came down for a weekend and played games against Surge, Rawdon and HSFC.

Summer at Sundridge Park

Anna Wilson reports

It's been a fantastic summer with padel participation soaring with over 75% daily occupancy throughout August, some days over 90% and lots of new players of every age having fun on court. The school holidays have enabled families to enjoy time together on court and our member organised social play sessions and tournaments have been incredibly popular especially when a cream tea is included!



Our top women's team players have had great success winning their league against a very strong Esher team and now qualify for the national finals in Derby on 10/11 September.



L-R
Lisa King, Emma Lunn, Alex Crawford (captain), Kerry White, Jacqueline Darby

Sundridge offers pay and play as well as membership and offers opportunities to the local community to get involved.

Their schools outreach programme has seen around 80 children play the game for the first time and community partnerships have been formed with Bromley Mencap and Access Sport providing pan-disability sessions for young people and adults on a regular basis.



The sessions have been very rewarding for the participants, the Club and the Coach and there are further plans afoot to reach out to additional community groups and get more people involved in this great game.

COMPETITION



The National Tennis Centre in Roehampton, London hosted its inaugural FIP Rise London Padel Open on 4 – 7th August 2022. An attractive prize pot and the opportunity to play in London attracted top players from across Europe. Roehampton hosted a welcome evening with tapas and beer to guests from the padel community to get the tournament off to a great start.

The event was free to spectators and many of the games were live streamed on the LTA site, attracting large audiences.



Tia Norton and her Spanish partner Carla Fito Fernandez were victorious in the women's event. Christian Murphy reached the quarter finals of the men's event which was eventually won by an impressive Dutch pair Sten Richters and Bram Meijer.

The event was well attended by padel enthusiasts keen to watch top players in action. As with the professional tour, there was a festival atmosphere with great tunes accompanying the padel.



PADEL TASTER SESSIONS

For rackets venues considering padel, remember you can book the National Tennis Centre padel courts on a pay-and-play basis. Find out more details [here](#).

COMPETITION

This year's competition calendar is available [here](#).

National Teams: World Championships (Men's & Women) will take place in Qatar 31 October – 5 November.

We Are Padel's 11-court Derby venue will host the European Group stages of the World Qualifiers in the last week of September. Seventeen men's teams and thirteen women's teams will compete for a place in Doha a few weeks later. Europe has secured three places in the men's and two in the women's category, and from 30 September to 2 October we will see these nations competing at Britain's largest venue.

Max Lutostanski and Alvaro Guerrero are recent appointments to the GB Women's team set to battle it out for a spot in the World Cup Finals.



SENIORS PADEL

GB Senior Women's Team Victorious in International Fixture v Ireland

A weekend of fantastic seniors' international team padel (40+ 48+ and 55+), saw a very consistent and strong performance from our GB Senior Women as they won all of the 7 matches that were played. There was a great atmosphere throughout the weekend, as both Irish and GB players cheered on their team-mates in some closely fought sets, played at Harrogate's Surge Indoor Padel facility. The GB players proved too strong for our Irish friends and the final result was a resounding 7-0 victory for GB. The Irish players said they felt inspired to take their padel game to the next level and have invited the GB team to Dublin for a re-match early next year!

The GB Seniors Women's Team is kindly sponsored and supported by Padel Shack. Congratulations to the GB team of Nat Gill, Elspeth Edwards, Kate Hands, Kerry White, Nicky Jenkins, Steph Trill, Vanessa North, Anthea Hunt (Sunday Cap), Sally Fisher (Saturday Cap).



THE PROFESSIONAL GAME

FIP

www.padelfip.com

WORLD PADEL TOUR

www.worldpadeltour.com

COACHING UPDATE

Existing racket sport coaches, who would like to sign up for LTA Introduction to Padel Coaching CPD can now do so via [the LTA website](#).

The LTA Coach Development & Support team has produced the new Padel Coaching Qualifications, the first 4-day Padel Instructor qualification launched earlier this year; anyone interested can register their interest [here](#). The course costs £400. Coaches working at existing padel venues are prioritised, although the course will soon be delivered externally and will roll out more widely across the UK.

To prepare for the LTA Padel Instructor course you can complete the Readiness Test using the following links. This costs £36 and is carried out remotely/video based.

[LTA Padel Instructor Readiness Test](#)

[LTA Padel Instructor Readiness Test](#)

The LTA Padel coaching team ran an *Introduction to Coaching the Double Glass* in August. Keep an eye out for this course when it next runs in the [CPD section of the LTA site](#).

They have also developed a pilot course for *Coaching Kids Padel: Organisation, Skill Acquisition and Drills*, it runs on 28 September in Scotland, you can sign up [here](#). It is a one day course and costs £40.

OFFICIATING NEWS

Remember existing tennis referees can do the free one-hour LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course. If you are an LTA Licensed Official and would like to upskill yourself and learn more about Padel Officiating, you can complete the LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course [here](#).

Call to action!

Similarly, to the LTA website please make sure you have a padel page on your County Website and promote the opportunities padel can offer to venues. For more information or if you have any padel news, please share with katherinemontague22@gmail.com or stephtrill@gmail.com